

Claim Listing

Listing of Claims:

- Claim 1 (canceled).
- Claim 2 (canceled).
- Claim 3 (canceled).
- Claim 4 (canceled).
- Claim 5 (canceled).
- Claim 6 (canceled).
- Claim 7 (canceled).
- Claim 8 (canceled).
- Claim 9 (canceled).
- Claim 10 (canceled).
- Claim 11 (canceled).
- Claim 12 (canceled).
- Claim 13 (canceled).
- Claim 14 (canceled).
- Claim 15 (canceled).
- Claim 16 (canceled).
- Claim 17 (canceled).
- Claim 18 (canceled).
- Claim 19 (canceled).
- Claim 20 (canceled).
- Claim 21 (canceled).
- Claim 22 (canceled).

Claim 23 (canceled).

Claim 24 (currently amended): An apparatus to electronically automate the sorting of chicken feet in the category of edible or inedible, comprising:

sensors including at least one photoelectric sensor and at least one inductive sensor for tracking a whole the chicken bird less its chicken feet in at least one a first shackle of a plurality of first shackles and only said chicken feet separate from said whole chicken bird in at least one a second shackle of a plurality of second shackles;

a programmable logic card to track and store information received by said sensors;

a means to communicate between said sensors and said programmable logic card;

at least one inspector reject button communicating with said programmable logic card;

a picking line, an eviscerating line, and an automatic rehanger including at least one trolley located between said picking line and said eviscerating line, wherein said at least one photoelectric sensor is adapted to detect the presence of said whole chicken bird and said chicken feet on said picking line and said eviscerating line, and wherein said at least one inductive sensor is adapted to detect the presence of said whole chicken bird and said chicken feet on said at least one trolley on said automatic rehanger;

a metal flag on said at least one first shackle; and

a metal flag on said at least one second shackle.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A process to electronically automate the sorting of chicken feet in the category of edible or inedible, comprising:

sensing, with at least one photoelectric sensor and at least one inductive sensor, for tracking a whole chicken bird less its chicken feet in at least one a first shackle of a plurality of first shackles and only said chicken feet separate from said whole chicken bird in at least one a second shackle of a plurality of second shackles;

using a programmable logic card to track and store information received by said sensors;

communicating by a communication means between said sensors and said programmable logic card;

employing at least one inspector reject button communicating with said programmable logic card;

employing a picking line, an eviscerating line, and an automatic rehanger including at least one trolley located between said picking line and said eviscerating line, wherein said at least one photoelectric sensor is adapted to detect the presence of said whole chicken bird and said chicken feet on said picking line and said eviscerating line, and wherein said at least one inductive sensor is adapted to detect the presence of said whole chicken bird and said chicken feet on said at least one trolley on said automatic rehanger;

using at least one metal flag on said at least one ~~a~~ first shackle; and

using at least one metal flag on said at least one ~~a~~ second shackle.